The Indian Poultry Gazette.

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FROM THE EDITOR'S CHAIR.

April has gone and judging by our postbag it has taken its usual heavy toll of life in the poultry yard in all parts of India.

From the Manbhum district we learn of one farmer with about 800 head of young stock coming along who has had to fight roup with dire results. From the Dacca district one lady who is a comparatively newcomer to our ranks has suffered with almost a clean wipeout due, we understand, to Ranikhet, letters have poured in from the U. P., from Gaya, and other parts all with similar tales of woe. In our own yard we have not been without loss but we were able to nip it in the bud and are pleased to say we now have a clean bill of health.

Ranikhet and Roup ! the curses of the Indian poultry industry, and we would utter just one word of advice which we get more and more convinced daily must be brought home to our readers. Don't try and keep good class birds running with Desi fowls, you cannot do it and expect a clean bill of health. Whether it is a desi bought for the table or a broody bought from the bazaar allow neither of them to come in contact with your good stock or it is certain you will reap disaster as a reward. When you send to a bustee for a broody make sure she is healthy when she is brought to you and then disinfect her thoroughly before you allow her to take that clutch of good eggs you are depending on for your next generation. For the bird that is brought in for the table kill it off at once and be sure, not sorry.

During the month we had the pleasure of meeting the Principal of the Veterinary Department of Bihar and Orissa and we have his assurance that his department will do all in their power to aid us in our fight against disease and whatever information he is able to give us on the subject will be given to our readers from time to time.

It is now more or less certain that the All India Exhibition will be held at Delhi this year and if we are not able to announce the name of the Honorary Show Secretary in this issue, later we shall be able to do so in our next issue, this will give exhibitors seven months in which to make their minds up as to what they will send to represent them. Might we say our likely representatives are mostly not hatched yet though some are a week or so old.

There is every possibility of a show for Bihar and Orissa in the next cold weather but we would be pleased to hear from more of our members and readers likely to exhibit as with Patna as the venue which is very central, facilities for sending birds are good and enthusiasm in the Province is quite strong. We know our old stagers will be fully represented but what we want is newcomers as don't forget if you want to dispose of your stock you must exhibit and let the world see your class.

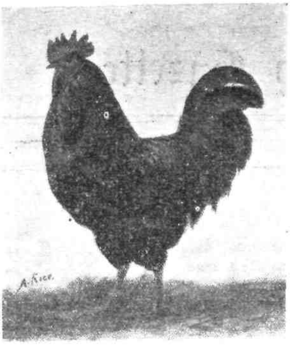
Judges at this show will be selected from entirely new sources and a very strong working committee is assured.

Readers will no doubt be pleased with the coloured plate contained in this issue which has been supplied by our Home 'big brother' Poultry World. We hope this will be the fore-runner of many free plates for our readers.

Attention is called to the fact that we have at last settled in our permanent (hoping) quarters and all correspondence should be addressed to us at Beckar Hall, Cantonments, Dinapore, Bihar and Orissa.

As this is only a few miles from our temporary quarters at Patna we do not anticipate any inconvenience to correspondence will be felt.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Reed our member for the C. P. and Mr. Nural Islam of the U. P. for the great assistance we are receiving from them in their efforts to wake their Provinces up and we would



AUSTRALORPS.

Mrs. Grain has imported a further pen of this wonderful dual purpose fowl SEE THEM AT THE SHOW and judge for yourselves.

EGGS FOR HATCHING.

No. 1 pen per setting Rs. 25.—Headed by imported cockerel of magnificent type bred from 267 egg dams, mated to 2 imported pullets of 251 egg dams, *and 6 of my last year hens specially selected for heavy egg production.*

No. 2 pen per setting Rs. 15.—Headed by imported cock, 1st Lucknow 1930, fully acclimatised, proved sire of winners, his son was placed 1st in class Calcutta 1931, mated to 8 selected pullets sired by cockerel placed 2 in class at Calcutta January 1931.

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No. 2 pen per setting Rs. 15.—Headed by cockerel whose dam laid 525 egg in 24 months mated to 8 hens of good utility type and heavy layers of large eggs.

15 eggs sent with each setting in full satisfaction.

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Pen No. 2. - Pen of Utility White Leghorns, mated to a recently imported Tom Barron cock. Rs. 15 per setting.

Pen No. 3. - Pen of Prince of Wales's strain Rhode Island Reds. Rs. 12 per setting.

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☞ *Note* :—All the hens in the above pens are L/2 birds. ☜

Watch this Advertisement for sale of surplus cockerels from my White Leghorns imported from Tom Barron, "the finest strain in the World".

No egg under two ounces sent out.

Full settings of 15 eggs and half settings of 7 eggs sent in full satisfaction.

Packing and freight free.

BATEMAN'S POULTRY FARM, SIMLA, S. W.

earnestly ask all our readers to try and produce at least one more member per month which is the only way to make our voice heard in the fight to put the Industry in its proper place in India.

The Club is expanding daily and we shall have one or two startling things to place before our next Annual General Meeting. Will you help us to make it more startling Mr. Reader ?

Our best wishes go with our President who is proceeding to England on vacation this month and we trust we shall see him with us again in the cold weather when the show season is in full swing.

Due to numerous requests we have prevailed upon Buff Rock to give the queries as well as answer to the same in his page and though we will do our best it will be noted that our space being limited it may not be possible always to include all the queries sent to us should they be more than usual.

Once more about the Bihar and Orissa Show. We are not up to expectations as regards likely entries yet and we appeal to intending exhibitors if they want a decided announcement about a show to write and inform us as to the number and class of exhibits they will be likely to send. Don't wait for the other man to do it, do it yourself if you want a show staged. The Club is trying to help you so why not try and help them ??.

THE IMPORTATION OF POULTRY.

By the Editoress.

On surveying the correspondence received by us from our readers in all parts of India during our term of Office we cannot help thinking that it is time we took up the cudgel on behalf of the importing of high class pedigree poultry from Great Britain, America, and various other countries, and reviewed the facts as they stand.

Often do we receive a letter from a reader in which he or she writes, "I have recently imported from England a pen of birds reputed to be from prolific laying stock but I am very disappointed as they are not laying at all well, etc., etc." or, "my imported pen came into lay and after laying for about six weeks, etc., they have now gone off" or "have gone into moult".

It is very disheartening, but then have you ever stopped to think, ever gone deeper into it than just to watch the first few months performance of this new pen, ever kept records of succeeding generations from this imported pen of "reputed layers"? If not, why not ?

This, dear reader, is one of the gravest faults of the novice poultry keeper in India, he expects too much in the beginning and because he does expect so much, when the performance is so much below his anticipation his disappointment is all the greater. Had it have been a local purchased hen he would just say "Oh ! well they were only country bred after all" but because they are imported they must at once start to eclipse all the efforts of the country bred bird. What is the outcome ? The novice gets fed up and says to himself this poultry keeping is a washout, and there is another loss to the industry who is a walking advertisement against poultry keeping in India, all because he did not stop to think and did not keep records.

Let us reason this out. The majority of our readers realise the best time to import, in fact the only time is between late October and the end of December. This bird if it had been allowed to remain in the country of its birth would have come into lay about late September or early October, just at the time it had to be picked up, crated into a very confined space, kept like this for as long as 30 to 35 days, come from a temperate climate through various atmospheric changes, and perhaps a different method of feeding, left to the tender mercy of the person on board appointed to look after it, good, bad or indifferent, and finally to arrive in India to settle down. And you expect it to settle down right away as if nothing of the foregoing changes to its life had occurred ? Poor Biddy : and yet if she had have been left in her own country she would have been perhaps a 250-280 egger.

The "SILVER STEEL" Chicken Toe Punch.

A tool you MUST have—used by all the leading Breeders in England. Invaluable to all Poultry Farmers.

Will pierce a clean hole without injury to day-old chicks—neat, strong, of permanent use—Nickel Plated Steel. With Code Card shewing markings.

Price Re. 1/- postage As. -/2/- only.

Can be obtained from

Mrs. A. O. FODEN,
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or from Makers :

CLARKES, SINEW WORKS,
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Unable to adapt herself to the vast changes in her life in the space of a few weeks she is condemned for no fault of her own, and her exporter is called all manner of names for exporting a pen of culls.

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GET IT FROM

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MISSION POULTRY FARM, ETAH, U. P.

SPECIALIZES IN :—

DUAL PURPOSE EXHIBITION AND UTILITY R. I. REDS.
EXHIBITION AND UTILITY MINORCAS.
EXHIBITION AND UTILITY WHITE LEGHORNS.

EGGS FOR HATCHING.

R. I. REDS, EX-UTILITY	... Rs. 30/- per Dozen.	UTILITY MINORCAS	... Rs. 18/- per Dozen.
R. I. REDS UTILITY	... Rs. 18/- per Dozen.	EXHIBITION LEGHORNS (Dewar's)	... Rs. 24/- per Dozen.
EXHIBITION MINORCAS (Imported Pen)	... Rs. 30/- per Dozen.	UTILITY LEGHORNS	... Rs. 18/- per Dozen.

Packing and despatch free. 15 eggs sent to the Dozen.

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE ALL EGGS FOR HATCHING HALF PRICE.

BREEDING STOCK FOR SALE.

Cocks, Cockerels, Hens, Pullets, Exhibition White Leghorns Rs. 15/-, 20/- and 25/- each.
Utility White Leghorns Rs. 10/-, 15/- and 20/- each.

Crate and Freight extra at cost.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

1. A. E. SLATER, *Manager.*

Don't be hasty in future Mr. Amateur, give her and her breeding a chance, and even if she does not come up to scratch don't worry, but once she is settled in her new quarters, goes about with her tail up and craking all day long, gather her eggs, and commence work on the 1st generation, providing, of course, she is mated to a satisfactory male, then see what the result of the 1st generation turns out like.

Breeding will out and if she, and the sire, have that vital factor in their blood, the first generation will convince you without doubt.

When we first started importing we had the same grave doubts and were very disappointed with our first imported pen, but nevertheless we decided to breed from them and our experience started. To-day we claim our Chashara birds to be some of India's finest layers and we seldom go beyond a second generation before bringing in new imported blood.

For an example let us quote two birds imported in October 1926.

Hen No. 164 laid 93 eggs only between November 1926 and October 1927. Three pullets from this bird, hatched in March 1927 averaged 215-209-197.

Hen No. 167 laid 102 eggs in the same period. Pullets from her hatched at the sametime produced averages from 187 to 209.

Both of these pens were mated to a cockerel from a dam whose pullet record was 284, and yet the two original imported hens "said to be from a high production strain" could not better an average of 102 ! ! !

We could quote many other instances of a similar nature had we the space at our disposal but the example given will suffice to show our readers that if you want to lay a good foundation and keep up the stamina and productive element in your flock you *must* import regularly.

There is one more item which must be said for the sake of the novice and that is feeding.

We don't dare to suggest that any imported bird, or its progeny, will prove their worth unless fed properly and carefully. Haphazard throwing down of a handful of wheat and paddy will get you nowhere and your many excursions to the nests will be in vain, so feed those imported birds properly and with common sense.

Lastly dear reader, if you happen to be one of the "disappointed novices" who has just had a taste of that imported hen that failed you just because you did not wait long enough to see the arrival of the 1st generation and its performance, try again, but even if you do not try again, don't shout from the hilltops that poultry does not pay because if you go the right way about it it *does*.

BEAUTY AND DELICACY IN POULTRY.

Guinea Foul and their keeping.

One is often asked is the keeping of Guinea Fowl profitable ? The answer is in the affirmative, but it needs to be qualified. As a marketable proposition one can hardly say, "Yes." But if one keeps Guinea Fowl for the purpose of supplying the household with something of great delicacy, as a change from ordinary poultry, there can be no mistake that Guinea Fowl do pay their way.

The eggs of the Guinea Fowl are much richer than ordinary hens' eggs, whilst the flesh of the birds is far more gamey in flavour than that of any domestic hen. As a substitute for game the Guinea Fowl is to be recommended. Indeed, it is a most admirable substitute for game, when game is not obtainable. In thinking of profit one must compare the value of the Guinea Fowl with that of game such as pleasants and partridges.

Near to the Original Fowl.

Guinea Fowl are undoubtedly to be considered as poultry, but they come nearer to the original wild fowl than any other of the domestic races. In their habits they resemble game, because they are monogamous or almost so, and not polygamous as is the domestic fowl. To obtain the best results Guinea Fowl must be paired. By this I do not mean that they must be kept paired up in the same manner as are pigeons, but the sexes need to be equal or nearly so.

Guinea Fowl need plenty of room to range about, and it is useless expecting them to give of their best unless they are allowed to roam at will. Thus in a flock one needs to have as many cocks as hens, so that the birds may pair off in a manner similar to the partridge. If they are allowed to live a semi-wild life they will do well.

A friend of mine, a bank manager, who has kept Guinea Fowl for many years, has the run of a rough field which surrounds a large woollen mill. This field has plenty of rough grass and the birds do wonderfully well. They are housed in an open-fronted shed in the most sheltered corner of the field. They are fed with wet mash in the morning and given wheat at night, about one hour before dusk.

When I say housed I am scarcely correct, because the birds seem to wander about at night even as they do in the day, only using the old shed when the weather is bad. When my friend wishes to catch one or two he feeds them in the shed for a few days at a rather later time than usual so that they stay in the shelter of the shed all night. For catching them he uses a large angler's net.

Buy Eggs, not Birds.

For any readers of the Gazette who may be wishing to start a flock of Guinea Fowl I should say it is by far the easiest way to buy the eggs and hatch

LIGHT SUSSEX

Record Laying Stock

Twice Winners of Laying Trials

in England.

Sittings per Rs. **15/-** a doz. Reduced from Rs. **20/-** Cockerels from 6 months old from Rs. **10/-**. Pairs, 1 cock 1 hen from Rs. **20/-** per pair. Trios from Rs. **30/-** according to quality.

Reductions in prices solely to make room for new importations.

M. WARD.

Red. GABLES,

Shillong,

(Sole importer of pedigree Light Sussex in Assam.)

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ENGLAND'S

LEADING POULTRY JOURNAL.

THE POULTRY WORLD

is edited by

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assisted by

WILL HOOLEY, F.Z.S.,

and a brilliant staff of contributors.

FREE ADVICE

on all poultry problems is willingly given at all times.

The practical outlook, the wealth of good ideas and profi making hints will immediately impress you when you se "The Poultry World." Every page is written by experts wh know poultry because their whole lives are spent in the fancy and they give you the full benefit of their experience liberall and without stint.

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Leghorn eggs @ **Rs. 7/-** per doz.
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Sittings from the best Imported strains.

Ex-Ut- **R. I. Reds** - Rs. **10/-** Per sitting of 15

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Day old chicks from the above breeds Rs. **15/-** per dozen.

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Enquiries for stock birds invited.

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White Wyandottes ... (Sperrin)
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Black Leghorn and Wyandottes Rs. **18/-** per sitting of 15. R. I. Reds. Rs. **15/-**.

Ex-Ut Wh. Leghorns.—Australorps, Minorcas, Rs. **10/-** Basras, Ut R. I. Reds Rs. **7/-**.

Prices reduced to encourage poultry breeding. 10% reduction to members of I. P. Club. Young Stock and Chicks for Sale.

My stock won many 1sts, 2nds and 3rds also specials at the 1931 All India, *Cups and eight places Allahabad 1932.*

Quality Second to None

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Fresh stock imported this year. *Sittings* and young stock available and booked in strict rotation.

Breeds :—R. I. Reds, Minorcas, Wh. Leghorns, Wyandottes, L. Sussex and Chittagongs.

Prices per sitting of 15, N. R.

Chittagongs ... ... Rs. **12/-**
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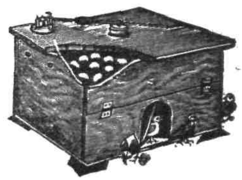
12 **RAJPUTANA.**



The Celtic Incubator and rearer, 20 eggs size Rs 30 eggs Rs. 30. 45 eggs Rs 35 Complete with English Thermometer. Capsule and printed instructi Profitable Poultry Farming in India Booklet R "Eggon" one packet makes twelve fowls lay co nuously six months Rs 2. "Preserveg" preserves *eggs ans. 6. Tick Proof Perch Brackets* **Rs. 2-8** Egg testing lamps Rs. 3. Coloured celluloid rings f size ans. 4. Numbered rings ans. 8. Chick rings an per dozen. Safety egg boxes ans. 12. Automatic fo tains chick Rs. 1-8. Fowl size Rs. 2. Chick trou Rs. 1-8. Best British made Incubator Capsules Rs Thermometer Rs. 5. Flint and limestone grit cl size fowl size 7 lbs. Rs. 1-4. Chick rearing meal 5 Rs. 2. Poultry laying meal 7 lbs. Rs. 2. Poultry Reme D. R. Cholera and Diarrhoea cure D. R. chicken cure D. R. Vim Tonic pills. D. R. roup cure "Tick kills ticks, all Rs. 2 each. Full detailed illustra list free. ROSS I. P. G. Poultry Appliances.

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12.

them off. The buying of young birds able to fly, or old ones, is not to be commended because it means wiring them in completely for some considerable time, and even then they do not settle down to their new surroundings with any pleasure. When a change of stock is needed buy or exchange a setting or two of eggs, mixing them with an equal number of your own, and so obtain a well-mixed hatch. If you follow this system every year you will prevent the stock from becoming too in-bred.

Many find a difficulty in determining the sexes as the distinguishing markings between the cock and hen are very slight. The cock bird has rather a more pronounced horn on his head, and the wattle is slightly larger and more outstanding than that of the hen. The cock also carries himself with his back more arched than does the hen, and of the two he is slightly the larger. The easiest way to distinguish the sex for certain is to note the call; only the hens use the well-known call, "Come back, come back"; the male bird makes a very sharp and harsh "back" repeated several times in rapid succession; but when frightened the hens also make the latter call.

Guinea Fowl commence to lay in April, and usually continue until early September. For this period they are prolific layers. Once a person has acquired the taste for the eggs of the Guinea Fowl it is never lost.

Very Secretive Layers.

When the birds have an extensive range and there are bushes and shrubs on it the nests often take some finding, as the hens usually choose a rough clump of grass or bush, or a secluded corner in the hedgerow. It is a good plan quietly to watch the birds in the morning about 11 o'clock; they generally wander off about this time and go to the vicinity of their various nests.

It is wise to collect the eggs in the evening when the birds have left the nests. The nests and their surroundings should be disturbed as little as possible, and three or four eggs should be left as nest-eggs. If these precautions are not followed the nests are forsaken, and many hours are wasted hunting up the fresh ones. If the dirtiest-looking eggs are taken from the nests each day there will not be any trouble through collecting stale ones.

Now a few hints for the breeding season. The incubatory period is longer than that of the ordinary domestic hen. Twenty-eight days is the incubatory period, and fourteen to eighteen eggs can be placed under a broody hen of such breeds as Sussex or Orpington. The eggs being exceptionally hard-shelled are very rarely broken by the broody.

As regards rearing, the main point to be considered is that Guinea Fowl being of such a wild description, the young chicks must be wired in, or kept in runs for the first month; otherwise they run off, get lost, and finally perish. The simplest method and safest one is to get a fifty-yard roll of fine-mesh wire-netting, 1½in. mesh, not larger, and stake out a 12½-yard square, taking great care that the netting at the foot is slightly dug in, or fixed in such manner as to come into close contact with the ground, or the chicks will get under. Twelve stout 2½ ft. stakes will give ample support for the netting.

The situation chosen for the rearing of the chicks should be dry, and preferably the enclosure should be on sandy or light soil, with fresh young grass, which, if long, must be mown. One or two small clumps about a yard square may be left long, as the young chicks can then hide in the event of a hawk putting in an unwelcome appearance. Place the hens' coops and young Guinea Fowls facing the south, and move forward each day—about a yard is sufficient. The young chicks are very prettily marked, being striped with black white, orange, and brown, and with vivid orange-pink coloured legs and beaks.

No Fancy Feeding Needed.

The same system as that which is followed with ordinary chickens can be very successfully adopted; scald fine granulated biscuit, containing meat, dried milk, or meat meal, up to ten per cent.; this is best dried off with chick mash. This should be fed three times a day, giving, in addition, a little rolled oats and split wheat twice a day.

For the first ten days five feeds per day should be given. After that it can be gradually reduced to three. The run is best stated out freshly every ten days, and at the end of a month remove it entirely, letting the hens out to wander about with the chicks. At about two months the young birds will be well feathered, and able to fly and find their own perching quarters.

From this stage onward feeding is really only needful twice a day, and it will be found that their appetites are comparatively small compared to hens or young chickens. They wander about or, more correctly speaking, run about to find flies, ants, worms, and grubs. They catch many flies and moths which other poultry are not quick enough to capture.

Rearing for Table.

To rear a chick for the table profitably quick growth is necessary, but if for exhibition or stock a much slower growth is required, otherwise maturity will be reached at an early stage and stamina and size will be missing. When rearing for table forcing foods can be used with a fair amount of freedom, but an entirely different menu must be adhered to when raising for exhibition or stock.

Very Fresh.

The early shopper was inspecting a crate of eggs in the village provision stores.

"Are these eggs fresh?" she inquired.

"Fresh, madam!" exclaimed the grocer. "Why they wouldn't have been laid till to-morrow if I hadn't torn a page too many off the calender!"

KEEP YOUNG STOCK GROWING.

By J. Elliott.

A Sound Diet is half the Battle.

The ill effect resulting from allowing young chickens to mix with adults is a matter which many who keep fowls have yet to be made to realise. Not only do the young birds suffer by being unable to get their share of food, but they do not get a diet suitable to their needs during the growing stage. The result is that they grow into weak and badly developed birds, and poor physical development means early decay and unproductiveness.

A young growing fowl needs a diet which will assist it in making steady growth and build up a strong and well-developed constitution. There are however, two essential points which should enter into the system of diet adopted; (1) the diet should be progressive; (2) an element of change should be provided.

Avoid Screenings for Food.

The first grain given to the tiny chick should be such as it can digest easily, say, groats or chick-feed, of which there are many kinds on the market. Avoid those chick mixtures that contain a large number of coloured seeds; these are known as screenings, and are composed entirely of hard, indigestible grains. This may be supplemented by fine grade biscuit meal soaked and dried off with Sussex ground oats.

As the birds grow older, crushed wheat may be given, and soft food of a plainer kind, until the birds are old enough to be put on to staple foods. To provide additional variety, for one of the daily meals—say, the third—give something different every day; bread and milk, oatmeal porridge, rice boiled and dired with oatmeal can be given in turn. Grit, green food, and fresh water are very important. Cut green bone will be very beneficial if insect life is not very plentiful.

Broodies Refusing Grain.

The problem with reference to broody hens which refuse to eat corn is one that vexes poultry-keepers at some time or other, since it is a too-frequent occurrence after a hen has been sitting for a week or so. It is sound advice to feed a broody on corn and drop the mash, but if she refuses to touch the former the alternative to letting her starve is to change the diet. For two days give her a little mash—no wetter than is necessary to make it cling together—and on the third day mix corn with the mash, slowly eliminating the mash each meal until she is eating corn again.

It is tricking the hen, but in nine cases out of ten the ruse will be found successful. It is important to remove every scrap of food left over after she returns to the nest.

THOSE UNWANTED BROODIES.

The Coop That Cures.

To make poultry-keeping a success the novice should adopt systemetic methods in all things. Above all, keep a strict account of the money coming in and going out. Only by this means is it possible to ascertain how matters are going.

A great failing with beginners is to expect a pedigree pullet for less money than what one would pay for a mongrel. Remember that it is possible to make the initial outlay the only outlay, except, perhaps, for buying a cockerel every other year to infuse fresh blood into your stock. Under these circumstances it is far better to pay a good price and get good stock in return.

Although at this time of the year there is not a glut of broody hens, there are those that are not wanted for setting purposes, and the question as to how they may be broken of their broodiness is uppermost in the minds of many.

The best way is to place the hen in a broody coop, which really is a box on legs, with a slatted bottom and front.

Cold Water No Cure.

The slatted bottom serves more purposes than one in that it prevents the hen from huddling up in a corner, it allows for a free passage of air beneath the hen, and permits of the droppings falling through on to the ground beneath. The old-time practice of drenching the hen with the cold water is no cure.

It is an unwise policy when placing a hen in a broody coop to put her on a diet of grain alone. A far better plan is to feed her in the same manner as the laying hens are being fed, allowing an ample supply of fresh water and green food. Where a grain ration only is given, the chance of bringing about a speedy cure is made more remote.

As soon as a hen is observed to be broody she should be removed from the nest and placed in the coop. The longer the delay, the longer will it be before she is broken. Usually three or four days in a coop will suffice to cure a mild case, but some hens are stubborn and a week is necessary. A little point that is often overlooked is the provision of grit to the bird in the coop.—S. E.

REARING CHICKS IN CONFINED RUNS.

Advice for the small Poultry-keeper.

*By C. G. May.**

In attempting to rear chicks in the confines of a back garden the small poultry keeper should try to follow nature as closely as he possibly can. I agree that matters are much against him, but there is no reason why he should not make just as great a success of his rearing as his more fortunate confrère, the poultry farmer.

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One of the greatest mistakes is to coddle chicks immediately they are hatched. Whilst agreeing that it is an anxious and exciting time, the small poultry rearer should curb his impetuosity and leave the hen to her task for 24 hours rather than be constantly *interfering with her and looking to see how many* chicks she has brought off from her batch of eggs.

It is the first few days of the chicks' life that count more than anything. Give them a set back during this time and they never recover from it completely. To the casual eye they might appear all right, but they will always carry the mark of this early set-back. Even the handling of young chicks is not advised; warm perspiring hands dampens their fluff and, before they can return to the warmth of the broody hen, a gust of wind catches them and a chill follows.

In the feeding of young chicks simplicity must be observed. Do not be guided so much by the amount they will eat, pay more attention to the quality of that which is given them. A chick will exist on very little food, but the better the quality the better will the chick progress. I am a keen believer in biscuit meal and I always advise its use in the rearing of chicks. Soaked in milk and water and incorporated in the growing mash it is an excellent food and there is no waste.

For the first week it benefits the chicks to have nothing but soft food, after which time a good chick grain may be introduced. See that this latter mixture is free from wheat screenings; the best chick mixtures contain very few grains, usually kibbled wheat, cut groats, very finely kibbled maize and peas, with a small quantity of canary seed. Green food, in the form of finely chopped onion tops, can be introduced after about the fourth day.

THE SECOND POULTRY SHOW.

Mainpuri, U. P.

Every year the temple of the Devi (the goddess of small-pox) situated a couple of miles distance from the city, draws to itself, on the two successive Ashthamis (the 8ths of the moon) following the Holi, large crowds of people and of each of these occasions a big fair is held. The district officers, taking advantage of this, had, for several years been holding and Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition along with one or the other of these fairs, but last year the suggestion was made that, as, poultry keeping was becoming one of the important subsidiary industries of the poorer class of villagers, in this and the adjoining districts, it would be useful to organise a Poultry Show in connection with this Exhibition. The matter was taken up in all earnestness and a successful beginning was made last year.

It must not be forgotten that holding of a successful Poultry Show at this time of the year is not an easy task, especially when we remember that from November to February there are held three different Poultry Shows, all within a radius of thirty miles. Most of the people who bring their birds to this show, take them to one or more of the above mentioned three shows and try to sell off as many of their birds as they can. The best are the easiest to be disposed off. Then this is the harvest time and the villager can ill afford to be away from his field for any length of time. Uncertain weather and hot sun are other factors which can not be ignored.

However the entries this year were unexpectedly large being almost double of last year. Arrangements were better but expensive as an effort was made to remove some of the defects brought to our notice last year. Some way must be discovered to minimize the expenses. The birds were penned on the 28th March and released on the 1st April. This is too long a period. At this time of the year birds ought not to be kept for more than three days.

The Poultry Show was formally opened by Khan Bahadur M. Maqsud Ali Khan Sahib the Collector, on the 29th and for three days from early morning till late in the evening there flowed through the show enclosure an unceasing stream of visitors. Only those who saw can realise how large a number of people visited this show.

Perhaps to a great majority of these people this Show was only a tamasha, but this tamasha did add to their knowledge, there is no doubt about that, for several people enquired from the Secretary whether all those birds had been imported from some distant part of the country. They were pleasantly surprised on being told that all the birds they saw had come from the neighbouring villages.

On the 31st of March the Commissioner of the division came and visited the Show. He was much pleased with what he saw and showed his appreciation by commenting on the Show encouragingly.

Mr. R. L. Pandey, Secretary, U. P. P. A., and Mr. Nur-ul-Islam, Demonstration Car and Asistant Secretary, were good enough to come and judge the birds. Thanks are due to Mr. Pandey and the U. P. P. A. for a donation of Rs. 50 (Fifty) for prizes and to Mr. Nur-Ul-Islam for his ungrudging and valiant help throughout the Show. Most of all thanks are due to K. B. M. Maqsud Ali Khan Sahib, the President and the members of the Exhibition Committee and also to the various officers in charge of the Exhibition for their liberal support to this Show.

The judges remark that the quality of the birds was much better than that of the last year. They are also pleased to note that there has been distinct improvement in the putting down of the birds. They were clean and free from vermins.

The following figures will make an interesting study :—

B. M. Cks. and Ckls 21, B. M. Hens and Plts. 48, Ex. W. L. Cks. and Ckls. 29, Ex. W. L. Hens and Plts. 35, Uty. W. L. Cks. and Ckls. 19, Uty. W. L. Hens. and Plts. 58, A. O. V. 9, Eggs. 7, total entries 216. No. of Exhibitors 55 ; No. of successful Exhi-

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The finest stock available in England and only landed this month.

Cockerel's dam and sire's dam laid **525/528 in 24** months.

This bird heads a pen of 10 hens with records of **270/288** in 12 months.

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As your late Secretary and Editor and exporter since leaving India our reputation for square dealing is well known. But in future will export utility poultry on approval *i.e.;* if not approved on arrival, send to Calcutta, Rangoon or all India Show for auction and if purchase price not realised we will refund difference. George Howard. 2

A £ 5 PRIZE.

Maintain the Stamina and quality of "Sperrin" strains by keeping them pure. We offer each year a cockeral value £ 5 as special for best bird at All India show bred in India from our strains, with no outcrossing. If you cannot import, then enquire conditions and purchase eggs from those who have our imported stock. Geo. Howard.
2

bitors who received prizes, 24. No. of prizes 41. Amount of money spent on prizes Rs. 151. 10. 0. (U. P. P. A. 51-10. Distt. Exhibition Committee 100) Exhibitors members of U. P. P. A. 43. Successful members 4; Members of the Bewar Egg. Socty. 17, successful 4; Villages represented 17. Districts 3; 16 birds sold for 73 Highest price 12 lowest price 3 Total expenditure of the Show has not been calculated but a rough estimate will be about 350.

In the end the Secretary wishes to thank all those who have helped to make this Show a success.

(Sd.) PYARE LAL,
Hony. Secy. Poultry Show.

MAINPURI.
Dated 6th April, 1932.

WHEN SELECTING A BREED.

When selecting a breed always remember that dark-plumaged birds suit backyard runs best. By dark-plumaged are meant black, buff, red or heavily marked fowls with as little white in their plumage as possible. Commence with sound stock only. By paying a fair price for a pen of birds, a brood of chicks or a sitting of eggs the small poultry keeper overcomes a great obstacle. Two good birds are better than four inferior ones at a slightly less figure.

* * * * *

Never make the mistake of keeping too many breeds. Settle on one variety, and stock it until you have mastered all its points. After this it may be possible to extend by taking up another breed and working on it. Everything depends upon the start made. Instant success is a great tonic, but failure on any point at the commencement has a deterring effect, and often will result in a prospective poultry keeper ceasing his energies and throwing up the sponge.

* * * * *

The secret of success in all things, particularly so in poultry keeping, is sound management. Haphazard trust-to-luck management leads to nowhere, but a sound and well thought-out programme will bring success.

* * * * *

Expenses can be made so heavy that the profits will quickly be swallowed up, therefore, under the heading of management comes the question of new appliances. Take great care of these; you cannot afford new this, new that, and new something else every month. By all means see that what is bought is sound and that a fair price is paid for it, but when you get it make certain that it receives treatment calculated to get the most wear out of it.

* * * * *

All utensils that are only in use for part of the season should be cleaned and stored away until they are needed again. This refers particularly to chick-rearing appliances.

THE CHICKS' 3rd AND 4th MONTH.

Housing—Feeding—Separating.

(By Lionel Watson).

During the third and fourth months biscuit meal should still form the staple diet of the chicks, because there is no food to equal this as a builder of stout frames, healthy organs and robust constitutions. In fact, for fowls of all ages and all kinds this is the best food to employ. It is commonly imagined that biscuit meal is an expensive food, but when its digestibility and nourishing qualities are taken into consideration and the remarkably fine birds it produces, it is undoubtedly the cheapest and most economical of all foods—the more so since prices have been considerably reduced.

Variety in feeding, however, is beneficial, and other foodstuffs can be employed with advantage. Boiled rice two or three times a week helps to keep the internal organs in good working order. An occasional feed of ground oats or wheat middlings, mixed into a crumbly moist consistency, may be fed every alternate day. Grain, preferably small wheat, should be provided once a day, sufficient being scattered in the litter to keep the birds busily occupied for several hours. This encourages them to take exercise, without which they cannot be healthy.

Whenever the conditions allow, growing chickens should be given their freedom, for not only in these circumstances are they able to procure a goodly proportion of their own food, but they develop stronger constitutions, and greater vitality. Beware, above all else, of tainted soil, for this spells disease and slow growth. If the chicks are being kept in fairly close confinement, it is necessary to provide them with plenty of succulent green food.

Too much stress cannot be laid on the need for allowing chickens to take as much exercise as they will. The constant movement of all the parts of the body is extremely beneficial, and can hardly be over estimated. The lazy chick never grows in the same way as does the one that is always scratching about and ready for its food. Encourage the youngsters to take exercise by every possible means. It will make the work of rearing not only more easy, but much more successful. It is a mistake to allow chicks to perch until they are fourteen to sixteen weeks old, for if they sleep upon a narrow perch they are very liable to bend their breast bones, detracting greatly from their appearance and value. They should sleep upon a shelf, six inches or so wide, and raised a foot or fifteen inches from the ground.

As soon as the cockerels can be distinguished from the pullets the sexes should be separated, because it does neither of them any good if they be allowed to run about together. The age when a chick's sex can be determined varies greatly in accordance with development and breed. Cockerels of non-sitting varieties can be detected when four or five weeks old; those of the heavy varieties may be anything up to three months before this is possible. As soon as the male birds can be distinguished they should be kept quite apart from the pullets. By doing this both lots grow more rapidly, and are better in every way.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

DEAR MADAM,

I am afraid Mr. S. Vertannes of the Burma Poultry Club did not understand me thoroughly when I suggested to hold the next All India at New Delhi.

It is in the best interests of the Poultry Industry in India to hold the show at New Delhi the reasons of which are known to yourself fully well. Some of these I shall enumerate here.

I feel, and shall be glad to be corrected if any one thinks I am wrong, that an All India Poultry Show at New Delhi, the Capital City of India where from the Viceroy, the Head of the Government in this country, down to the humblest peasant, every one will be benefitted.

New Delhi draws to itself almost every ruling prince, noble-men, gentlemen of repute, and Imperial Government officers, whereas all these persons do not visit Calcutta and will not do so just for the sake of the All India Poultry Exhibition.

It appears to me, to be quite frank, that the All India and the Indian Poultry Club, the first Institution for the development of a Poultry Industry in India, have not received the co-operation from the Club members they deserve and hence sufficient publicity has not been given to ensure better results than those hitherto achieved.

I have often been told by important officers of Government both Central and Provincial that Fancy is more catered for at the All India than the Utility. Whether they are right or wrong is for the Club to say.

I do not think those to whom the cause of the poultry industry in India is dear, will be so hard on this noble institution as to give up the intention of exhibiting their birds simply for distance when fanciers and farmers from Delhi, Meerut, Etah, and Lucknow are quite happy to bear the expense and inconvenience, of taking birds to Calcutta, because they know that the All India is meant for a common cause and the co-operation of every one, be it at the expense of money and other personal matters, is absolutely essential for the success of the show, the responsibility for which rests, I think, equally as much with the other members of the Club, as with the poor show and club Secretaries.

If the middle of January, 1933 is too late by all means have it in the beginning of January 1933, as is often done at Calcutta. Middle of January was Mr. L. O. Stuart Smith's suggestion, who is willing to run the show and who guarantees financial and other assistance.

I am afraid, neither Calcutta nor Delhi is the most central spot for every one concerned, but it is not this only we have to consider. My chief reason for holding the show at New Delhi is to demonstrate to India what the Poultry Industry can do for this country, specially the poor peasant.

Facilities for doing so are decidedly far greater in New Delhi than at any other place. I quite understand the cost involved in sending birds to Delhi from South India and Burma, but a spirit of accommodation and self sacrifice for the advancement of the very common cause all of us are working for, will, in the long run, aid to the interests of the very gentlemen who may have to bear the expense and inconvenience of sending birds to Delhi.

I have spoken and written to over twenty members of the Club residing in different parts of India and they welcome this suggestion of holding the All India at New Delhi.

Lot of poultry fanciers and farmers used to complain to me against the distance in going to Calcutta but I always told them what I have stated in this letter and they willingly agreed.

I hope Mr. Vertannes, who is one of us, will also not refuse to accede to my request of agreeing to send his birds, in the event of a show being held at Delhi, and induce his friends in South India and Burma to follow him if he thinks my arguments are sound.

Most certainly let the Burma Poultry Club hold their annual show immediately after the All India.

Yours Truly,

NUR-UL-ISLAM.

Judges Report of All India Show.

Dear Madam,

I have read with interest the letter from Mrs. H. E. Dempster on the above report.

I opine that a Judge should not disqualify any bird that he cannot at the time of judging convince his Stewards that a deliberate attempt has been made to "Fake" the exhibit.

In England a Judge is very careful before he decides to put up a Disqualified Card. If he has doubt he will make a note that the bird is "passed." The "award" or disqualification is only given when there is no doubt about Faking and the judges Stewards agree with his opinion.

In the case in question a lot of sorrow would have been saved if the word passed was used instead of disqualified.

Yours faithfully,

J. WILLIAMS.

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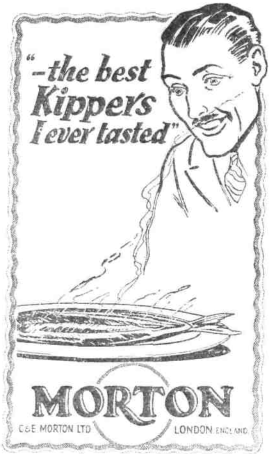

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I. P. GAZETTE OFFICE,

DINAPORE P. O., B. & O.

The venue of the next All India.

"Madam,

In the February issue of the Gazette Mr. Nural Islam suggested Delhi as the venue of the next All India Poultry Exhibition.

It is indeed a pity that the Imperial town should lag behind in this respect.

The March issue of the Gazette contained two letters on the same subject. On one hand Mr. S. Vertannes is strongly opposed to Delhi, while on the other Syed Shamshad Ali of Delhi supports it whole heartedly.

Fortunately and accidentally all the three gentlemen happen to be my friends. It is therefore rather a terrible job to endorse the views of one and disagree with the other. Yet it is my painful duty to say what is right to me and I must say that Delhi will be the most suitable venue for the next All India and it can be confidentially expected that Delhi Show will be a unique success.

Reverting to the objections raised by Mr. S. Vertannes I cannot accept that Calcutta is the most central place. Even if it might be so, the claims of other principal towns can not be justly overlooked. Moreover such an objection was not raised even in the case of Poona. I may, however, echo the sentiments of Mr. S. Vertannes when he says that middle of January will not be the right time. In this respect Mr. Vertannes' objections are surely weighty. In my opinion the date should in no way exceed the second week of December when the season will be in as full swing as Mr. Islam wants it to be. Moreover at this time the birds too will be in their best condition.

In the end I may also add that I shall be very glad to contribute my humble share if Delhi is accepted as the avenue of the next All India.

M. A. K. MUSHTAQ,

Member I. P. C.

Dust Baths in the Tack-Yard run.

Fowls need a bath just as often as we do. This is especially so with fowls in confinement. A wide box about 12in. deep and 2ft. wide half-filled with sifted ashes or sand will be found to be much appreciated by the birds and keeps them free from vermin.

How, Indeed ?

Wife: "Is a three weeks old chicken big enough to eat."

Husband: "Good heavens—no! Why, it would only be a mouthful."

Wife: "But if it can't eat how can the poor little thing live."

Canary Malta, Rs. 13, Turkeys Rs. 21 pair. Myna, male, Rs. 16. Cockatoo, hed Head, Rs. 65. Parrot, Rs. 50. Persian Cat, Rs. 55. Irish Terrier, Rs. 60 each, all paid with Cable. Fresh Bazar. Salt Provisions—5 seers Lemons, Rs. 3-8. Oranges, Rs. 6 all paid.
RICHARDSON & Co. Post Box 6707. Tel. "Destiny" Calcutta

MOORLA UTILITY POULTRIES.
GUINEA FOWLS EGGS
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Questions under this heading are answered free of charge on this page.
Letters should be addressed—BUFF ROCK,
C/o. The Hon. Editor, I. P. GAZETTE and marked "Query".
Where readers desire an individual reply they should enclose a stamped addressed envelope and a fee of As. -/8/- is charged.

Mr. T. Adampur.—*I have recently hatched some Australorp eggs brought from a breeder who advertises in the Gazette and instead of the chicks being black they have a lot of white in them and do not look like pure bred birds at all. I am told by the breeder that they will moult these out when they get older is that right ?*

Yes, Mr. T., you need not fear they will be cross-breds and you will find at about 5 months old they will moult out their chicken plumage and become all black. You do often get an occasional white feather in an adult it is admitted but then you get 'sports' in all breeds.

Mr. L. Motihari.—*My Wh. Leghorn chicks are now 6 weeks old and I want a good growing mash for them can you give me one ?*

Biscuit meal	...	2 parts.
Gram or Maize meal	...	1 part.
Ata ...	...	1 part.
Bajra or Barley meal	...	1 part.
Fish or Meat ...	...	½ part.
Bran (Wheat)	...	2½ parts.

Charcoal (wood) 1 oz. to every lb. of Mash.
Salt 1 oz. to every 3 lb. of ash.

Mash can be fed 2 hours A.M. and 2 hours P.M.

Mr. W. Allahabad.—*I have a plot of ground attached to my bungalow which measures 70 × 40 yds. and is well shaded by trees and I desire to go in for fowls, my choice being the R. I. Red. Will you please tell me how many birds I can keep on this ground on the range system without overcrowding ?*

Allahabad is a hot dry place so I take it the grazing on your plot is poor till about the end of June when the rains commence so I think you should limit it to 200 heads. If you have means of irrigating it so as to obtain a good grass surface you could increase to 300.

Mrs. J. Karachi.—*Will you please give me a good fattening feed for my young surplus cockerels ages from 3 to 4½ months.*

Boiled potatoes	...	2 parts.
Boiled rice ...	...	2 parts.
Maize or Gram meal	...	1 part.

Mix with the water the rice is boiled in until it becomes crumbly. Feed as much as the birds will consume in ten minutes, three times daily. The addition of a good condiment such as OVUM or KARSWOOD will assist appetite.

Birds should be penned and not allowed free range.

Mr. H. Hyderabad (Dn.)—*I imported a pen of one cockerel and three pullets from a well known English breeder of Leghorns in November last and all three of the pullets came into lay between the 5th and 15th December. A has laid 73 eggs from 15th December to 15th April, B has laid 67 and C has laid only 39. I did not breed from them this year as they were only nine months old and eggs not up to 2 ozs. I want to breed from them in October. I am confident of A & B but what about C, her performance was not too good, should I set her eggs ?*

I think I should advise you to wait until August and record her performance from 1st August till 30th September. If she produces 35 eggs between those dates you can be confident she will produce good stock, the male of course being the right bird. As for A & B for newly landed birds you have got good stock and should breed all you can from them. C may be a good bird but due to change of climate and voyage out might have been affected. You do not say if she moulted at all.

Mrs. P. Hastings.—*Writes to state she has seven pullets hatched by incubator in November which have got crooked toes. Should she keep these for laying or not ?*

If they are of a laying strain I do not think you will find their possessing the deformity will harm them providing they are of course well developed otherwise and I should not cull them. They should not be bred from nor are they any use for exhibiting.

Mr. H. Muland.—*Asks some questions re Australorps.*

Re. question A, please see reply to Mr. T. of Adampur.

B. This would appear to be either due to a parasite but as its brothers and sisters are not affected we must rule this out. I think therefore it must be due to recessive growth in the feather tracts and the only thing possible is to feed extra oily substances and you are already doing this. You might also try adding to its mash a small amount boiled of linseed or hempseed.

You might also add a very minute amount of carbonate of Iron, about 1/10th of a grain, to its drinking water twice per week.

C. I should advise you to remove the earth in the houses about every second week.

Individual replies sent to Messrs. Imam, Page, Chowdhury and Master Britton.

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